DRAFT

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

CHECKLIST

Haymaker Wildlife Management Area Road Improvements

July 21, 2023

Table of Contents

I. Compliance with the Montana Environmental Policy Act

Before a proposed *project* may be approved, environmental review must be conducted to identify and consider potential impacts of the proposed project on the human and physical environment affected by the project. The Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and its implementing rules and regulations require different levels of environmental review, depending on the proposed project, significance of potential impacts, and the review timeline. § 75-1-201, Montana Code Annotated ("MCA"), and the Administrative Rules of Montana ("ARM") 12.2.430, General Requirements of the Environmental Review Process.

FWP must prepare an EA when:

- It is considering a "state-proposed project," which is defined in § 75-1-220(8)(a) as:
  (i) a project, program, or activity initiated and directly undertaken by a state agency;
  (ii) … a project or activity supported through a contract, grant, subsidy, loan, or other form of funding assistance from a state agency, either singly or in combination with one or more other state agencies; or
  (iii) … a project or activity authorized by a state agency acting in a land management capacity for a lease, easement, license, or other authorization to act.
- It is not clear without preparation of an EA whether the proposed project is a major one significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. ARM 12.2.430(3)(a));
- FWP has not otherwise implemented the interdisciplinary analysis and public review purposes listed in ARM 12.2.430(2) (a) and (d) through a similar planning and decision-making process (ARM 12.2.430(3)(b));
- Statutory requirements do not allow sufficient time for the FWP to prepare an EIS (ARM 12.2.430(3)(c));
- The project is not specifically excluded from MEPA review according to § 75-1-220(8)(b) or ARM 12.2.430(5); or
- As an alternative to preparing an EIS, prepare an EA whenever the project is one that might normally require an EIS, but effects which might otherwise be deemed significant appear to be mitigable below the level of significance through design, or enforceable controls or stipulations or both imposed by the agency or other government agencies. For an EA to suffice in this instance, the agency must determine that all the impacts of the proposed project have been accurately identified, that they will be mitigated below the level of significance, and that no significant impact is likely to occur. The agency may not consider compensation for purposes of determining that impacts have been mitigated below the level of significance (ARM 12.2.430(4)).

MEPA is procedural; its intent is to ensure that impacts to the environment associated with a proposed project are fully considered and the public is informed of potential impacts resulting from the project.

II. Background and Description of Proposed Project

This section includes a short description of the proposed project including the project sponsor/ applicant/ responsible party, the type of proposed action and the anticipated schedule of the proposed project.

Name of Project: Haymaker Wildlife Management Area Road Improvements

Haymaker Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is in Wheatland County approximately 15 miles north of Two Dot, MT, along the southeastern edge of the Little Belt Mountains (Figure 1). The public is provided walk-in access to the WMA via trails accessed from established roads within the WMA. The WMA was purchased in 1957 by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP). The primary objective of the WMA is to manage grassland and forested habitats for the benefit of elk and other game and nongame wildlife species.

The south facing slopes and large grassy benches of the WMA provide winter range for elk. A commensurate goal of the WMA is to provide the public opportunity for outdoor recreation, primarily in the forms of hunting, hiking, and wildlife viewing. The topography of the area varies from typical foothill type to dry, gently sloping, flat-top benches which extend southward from the timbered mountains. These benches are bisected regularly by moist coulees or draws, which, in many areas, are 100 to 200 feet lower in elevation than the bench tops above. There are three established and primitive two-track roads within the boundaries of the WMA (Figure 2) that have become a safety concern over time due to erosion and rutted conditions. FWP is proposing a road improvement project at the WMA to address deteriorating conditions associated with the existing roads.

The East Bench, West Bench, and Central roads provide access from the south boundary entrance to the north boundary of the WMA. Near the south entrance, the East and West Bench Trails climb steep inclines out of the bottom onto the east and west benches within the WMA. On those inclines, travel has become difficult as the roads have become rutted with large sized rock exposed at the surface. Under these conditions, motorized vehicles may lose traction and spin out on the incline creating unsafe conditions for drivers. In response to worsening conditions, drivers have widened the tracks by driving off the established roads to find traction to get up the steep incline(s). This has led to additional erosion and worsening of road conditions.

Under the proposed action, FWP would create switchbacks on the East and West Bench Road inclines to reduce the slope, which would also reduce erosion and improve road safety. The surface of all three roads would be improved by removing large, exposed rocks and installing suitable road gravel. To reduce illegal motorized travel into the adjacent USFS lands yet maintain access from the WMA for non-motorized travel, two "V" gates (horse gates) for horse and walk-in access are proposed at the USFS trailheads from the West Bench and Central roads located at the north end of the WMA, as indicated in Figure 2. Appendix II provides a detailed description of standard "V" gates.

In addition, the entrance road at the south end of the WMA is rutted creating safety concerns for visitors accessing the WMA. Therefore, under the proposed action, FWP would also improve the south entrance by installing a cattleguard to replace the existing gate and graveling approximately 300 feet of the entrance road. The existing road south of the WMA's entrance is part of an easement and not a county road; therefore, 150 feet of the proposed 300 feet of gravel road improvement would occur on the easement south of the WMA boundary with an additional 150 feet within the WMA. Appendix I provides the conceptual plans and general location for the road work described.

Figure 2

The proposed project is anticipated to be completed summer and early fall of 2023 or alternately spring and summer of 2024.

Affected Area / Location of Proposed Project

- Legal Description
    - Latitude/Longitude: 46.60638, -110.21778
    - Section, Township, and Range: 21 T10N R12E
    - Town/City, County, Montana: Two Dot, Wheatland, Montana
- Location Map Figure 1.

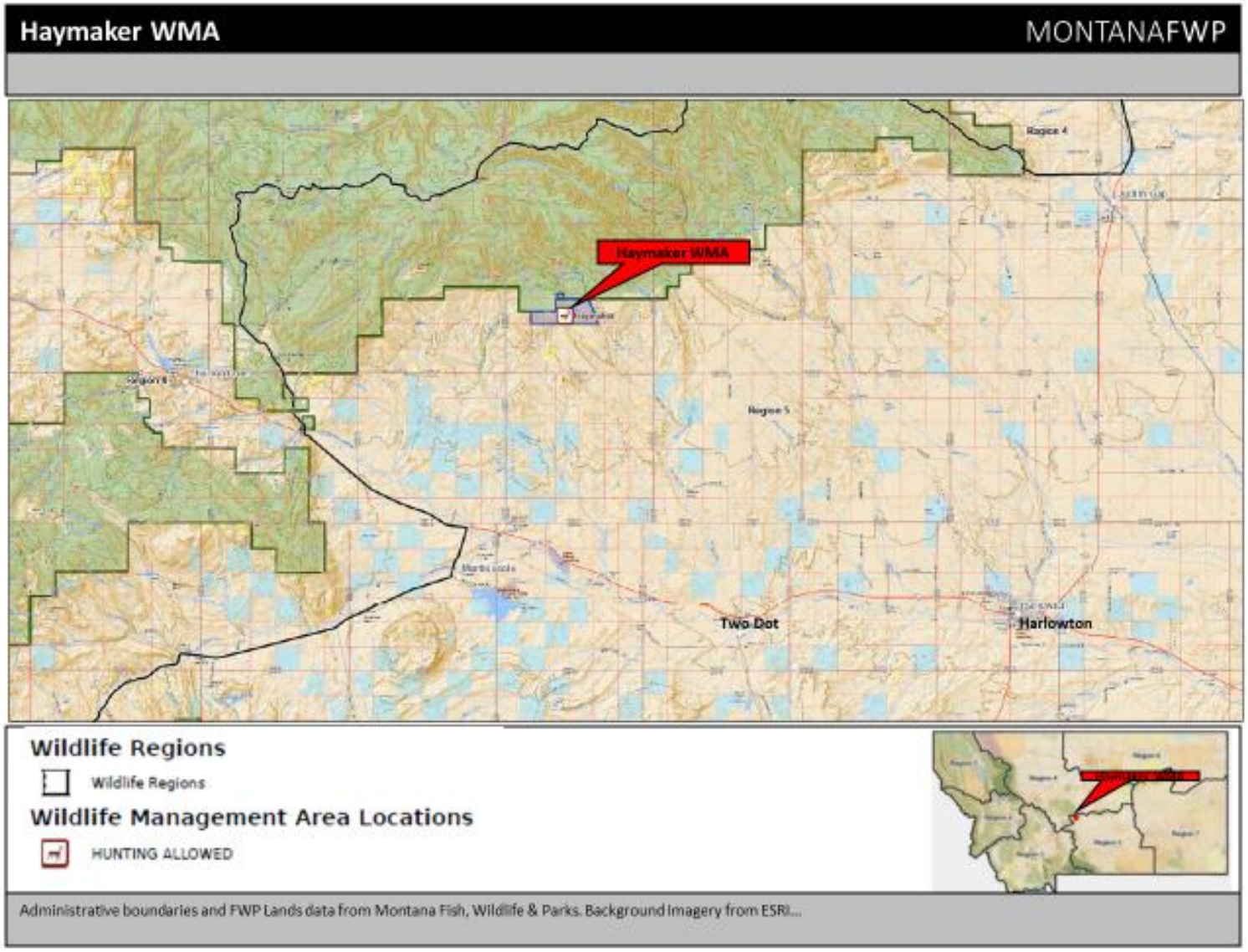


Figure 1. Haymaker WMA located in Wheatland County MT.

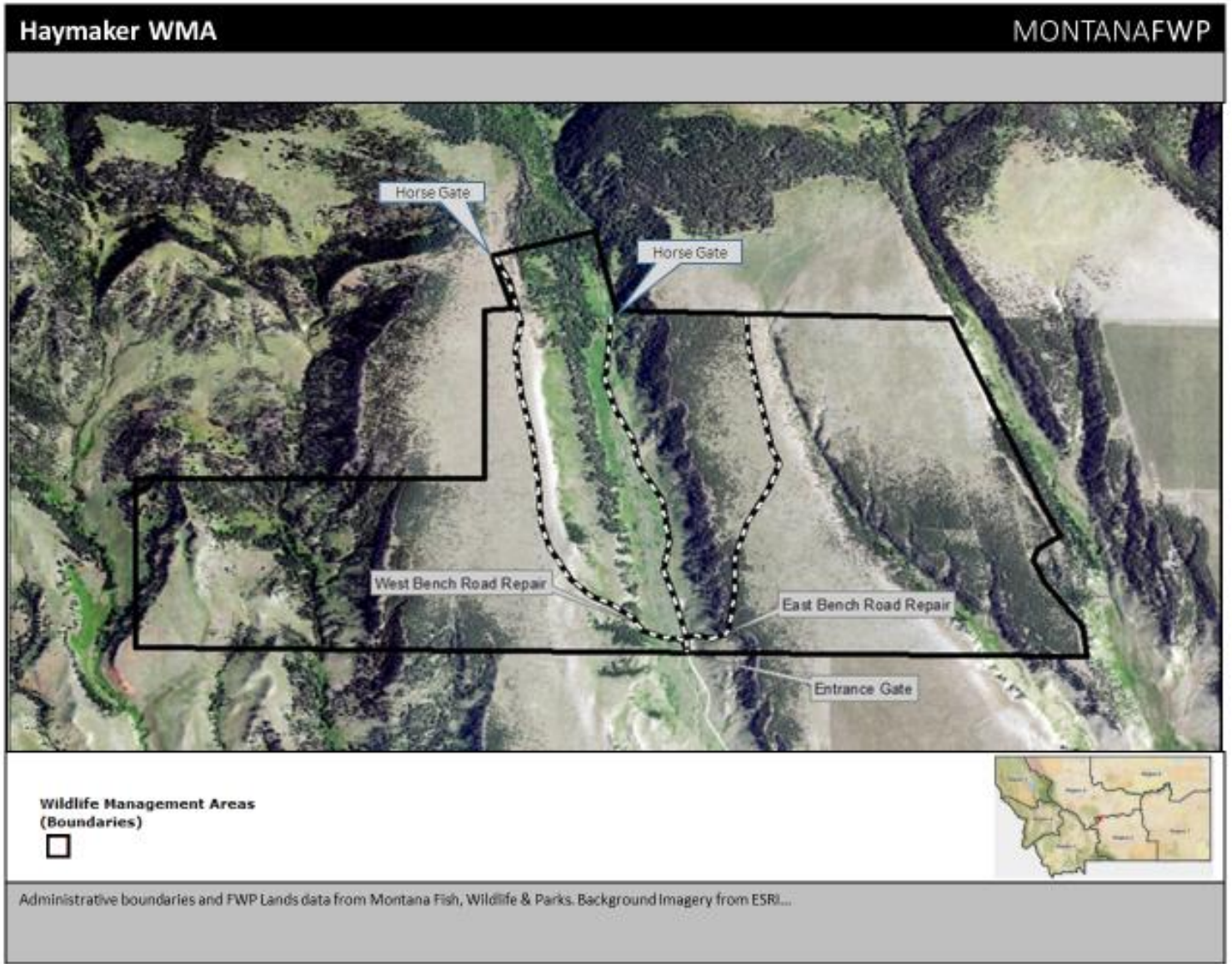


Figure 2. Haymaker WMA interior roads.

III. Purpose and Need

The EA must include a description of the benefits and purpose of the proposed project. ARM 12.2.432(3)(b). Benefits of the proposed project refer to benefits to the resource, public, department, state, and/or other.

The WMA includes three existing two-track roads: West Bench, East Bench, and Central Roads (Figure 2). Under the proposed action, FWP would improve the existing roads as well as the south entrance to the WMA and install horse gates at the USFS trailheads at the northern boundary of the WMA (Figure 2). The East and West Bench Roads are eroding and have become unsafe for travel due to steep slopes, rutting, and exposed rock. Under the proposed action, FWP would adjust the East and West Bench roads by building switchbacks, removing exposed rock, and applying a limited amount of gravel. In addition, to reduce illegal motorized use of the trails located on adjacent USFS lands, while maintaining access for non-motorized use, FWP would install two "V" gates (horse gates) at the northern terminus of the East Bench and Central Roads (Figure 2). Further, the south entrance to the WMA is currently gated, and the access road surface is in poor condition with extensive ruts and large exposed rocks. Under the proposed action, FWP would improve the south entrance road by grading and applying gravel over approximately 300 linear feet of road beginning on a private easement 150 feet outside the south entrance gate and running another 150 feet into the WMA. A cattleguard would also be installed to replace the existing gate at the south entrance.

The proposed improvements would enhance access to and safety of the affected two-track trails and the WMA's south entrance road for ongoing use by the public and FWP staff. Final plans will be developed after a cultural resource survey is completed. The proposed project would improve access and safety for visitors and FWP staff alike and maximize use of the existing roads within the WMA, thereby minimizing any new ground disturbance and associated impacts to the WMA.

The proposed project consists of the following elements:

- Create switchbacks on the West Bench Road, remove larger rock in the road, and add gravel to limited areas of the developed road.
- Create switchbacks on the East Bench Road, remove larger rock in the road, and add gravel to limited areas of the developed road.
- Replace the existing gate at the south entrance with a cattleguard
- Gravel the south entrance road approximately 150 feet before the entrance and approximately 150 feet after the entrance for a total of approximately 300 feet of graveled road.
- Install "V" gates at the northern boundary of the WMA at the West Bench and Central Road trailheads to the adjacent USFS lands.

The proposed project is anticipated to be completed summer and early fall of 2023 or alternately spring and summer of 2024.

If FWP prepared a cost/benefit analysis before completion of the EA, the EA must contain the cost/benefit analysis or a reference to it. ARM 12.2.432(3)(b).

	Yes*	No
Was a cost/benefit analysis prepared for the proposed project?	☐	☒

* If yes, a copy of the cost/benefit analysis prepared for the proposed project is included in Attachment A to this Draft EA

IV. Other Agency Regulatory Responsibilities

FWP must list any federal, state, and/or local agencies that have overlapping or additional jurisdiction, or environmental review responsibility for the proposed project, as well as permits, licenses, and other required authorizations. ARM 12.2.432(3)(c).

A list of other required local, state, and federal approvals, such as permits, certificates, and/or licenses from affected agencies is included in Table 1 below. Table 1 provides a summary of state requirements but does not necessarily represent a complete and comprehensive list of all permits, certificates, or approvals needed. Rather, Table 1 lists the primary state agencies with regulatory responsibilities, the applicable regulation(s) and the purpose of the regulation(s). Agency decision-making is governed by state and federal laws, including statutes, rules, and regulations, that form the legal basis for the conditions the proposed project must meet to obtain necessary permits, certificates, licenses, or other approvals. Further, these laws set forth the conditions under which each agency could deny the necessary approvals.

Table 1: Federal, State, and/or Local Regulatory Responsibilities

Agency	Type of Authorization (permit, license, stipulation, other)	Purpose
Montana Natural Heritage Program	Species of Concern	Protection of sensitive species
State Historic and Preservation Office	Determination of historic or cultural significance.	Protection of historic or culturally significant sites or artifacts
US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Endangered Species Act (ESA). USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation Program	Protection of ESA-listed species

V. List of Mitigations, Stipulations

Mitigations, stipulations, and other *enforceable* controls required by FWP, or another agency, may be relied upon to limit potential impacts associated with a proposed Project. Table 2 lists and evaluates enforceable conditions FWP may rely on to limit potential impacts associated with the proposed Project. ARM 12.2.432(3)(g).

Table 2: Listing and Evaluation of Enforceable Mitigations Limiting Impacts

Are enforceable controls limiting potential impacts of the proposed action? If not, no further evaluation is needed.			**Yes ☐**	**No ☒**
If yes, are these controls being relied upon to limit impacts below the level of significance? If yes, list the enforceable control(s) below			**Yes ☐**	**No ☐**
Enforceable Control	**Responsible Agency**	**Authority (Rule, Permit, Stipulation, Other)**	**Effect of Enforceable Control on Proposed Project**	
Design and Construction	FWP	Best Management Practices	Meeting standards for road construction and cattleguard placement.	
Species impacts	MTNHP	Species of Concern state	Timing, location, or other mitigations as determined by review	
Cultural impacts	SHPO	Antiquities	Location or other mitigations as determined by review	

Species impacts	USFWS	ESA	Limit project impacts to ESA-listed species present or potentially present on the WMA

VI. Alternatives Considered

In addition to the proposed Project, and as required by MEPA, FWP analyzes the "no-action" alternative in this EA. Under the "no-action" alternative, FWP would not do the proposed project.

The “no-action” alternative forms the baseline from which the potential impacts of the proposed Project can be measured.

	Yes*	No
Were any additional alternatives considered and dismissed?	☐	☒

* If yes, a list and description of the other alternatives considered, but not carried forward for detailed review is included below

VII. Summary of Potential Impacts of the Proposed Project on the Physical Environment and Human Population

The impacts analysis identifies and evaluates **direct**, **secondary**, and **cumulative impacts**.

- **Direct impacts** are those that occur at the same time and place as the action that triggers the effect.
- **Secondary impacts** “are further impacts to the human environment that may be stimulated or induced by or otherwise result from a direct impact of the action.” ARM 12.2.429(18).
- **Cumulative impacts** “means the collective impacts on the human environment of the proposed action when considered in conjunction with other past and present actions related to the proposed action by location or generic type. Related future actions must also be considered when these actions are under concurrent consideration by any state agency through pre-impact statement studies, separate impact statement evaluation, or permit processing procedures.” ARM 12.2.429(7).

Where impacts are expected to occur, the impact analysis estimates the **extent, duration, frequency,** and **severity** of the impact. The duration of an impact is quantified as follows:

- **Short-Term**: impacts that would not last longer than the proposed project.
- **Long-Term**: impacts that would remain or occur following the proposed project.

The severity of an impact is measured using the following:

- **No Impact**: there would be no change from current conditions.
- **Negligible**: an adverse or beneficial effect would occur but would be at the lowest levels of detection.
- **Minor**: the effect would be noticeable but would be relatively small and would not affect the function or integrity of the resource.
- **Moderate**: the effect would be easily identifiable and would change the function or integrity of the resource.
- **Major**: the effect would irretrievably alter the resource.

Some impacts may require mitigation. As defined in ARM 12.2.429, mitigation means:

- Avoiding an impact by not taking a certain action or parts of a project;
- Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of a project and its implementation;
- Rectifying an impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; or
- Reducing or eliminating an impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of a project or the time period thereafter that an impact continues.

A list of any mitigation strategies including, but not limited to, design, enforceable controls or stipulations, or both, as applicable to the proposed project is included in **Section V** above.

FWP must analyze impacts to the physical and human environment for each alternative considered. The proposed project considered the following alternatives:

- **Alternative 1: No Action. Evaluation and Summary of Potential Impacts on the Physical Environment and Human Population**
  Under the "No Action" alternative, the proposed project would not occur. Therefore, no additional impacts to the physical environment or human population in the analysis area would occur. The "No Action" alternative forms the baseline from which the potential impacts of the proposed Project can be measured.
- **Alternative 2: Proposed Project to improve roads, install a cattleguard, and "V" gates. Evaluation and Summary of Potential Impacts on the Physical Environment and Human Population**
  See Table 3 (Impacts on Physical Environment) and Table 4 (Impacts on Human Population) below for an evaluation of impacts to the physical environment or human population in the analysis area.

Table 3: Impacts to the Physical Environment

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	Duration of Impact			Severity of Impact					
Resource	None	Short-Term	Long-Term	None	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Summary of Potential Direct, Secondary, and Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures
Terrestrial, avian, and aquatic life and habitats	☐	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to terrestrial, avian, and aquatic life and habitats would be expected because of the proposed project. The work area of this project is limited in size and will be designed to minimize any new footprint by maximizing use of the existing roadways. The proposed project would result in small scale disturbance to the immediate area where excavation and graveling occurs for switchback road development (East Bench and West Bench Roads), with the cattleguard and entrance road gravel being installed on existing road surfaces. Additional limited disturbance to install "V" gates at the trailheads on adjacent USFS lands would occur. FWP expects construction activities would have short –term, negligible adverse impacts during implementation of the project. FWP also expects that installation of the switch backs would mitigate against future erosion in the affected areas and thereby provide long term, minor benefits to WMA habitat and species utilizing the habitat by allowing for vegetation to grow in currently eroded areas. Installation of the "V" gates would also reduce motorized incursions into the adjacent USFS lands identified as non-motorized, thereby reducing ongoing disturbance to wildlife beyond the WMA boundary. Once the construction phase of the proposed project is complete no additional impacts would be expected because of the proposed project.
Water quality, quantity, and distribution	☐	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to water quality, quantity, and distribution would be expected because of the proposed project. Short-term and minor impacts may include newly exposed soils and fines imported with gravel washing away during rainstorms and spring snow

									melt. Such impacts would be short-term, minor, and consistent with existing impacts and likely conclude within the first year or two after project completion. Long-term, moderate, and beneficial impacts would be expected upon completion of the project from reduced erosion associated with less-steep road slopes. The project area is not located near any perennial streams or other existing water bodies thus water quality would not be affected. Once the proposed project is complete no additional adverse impacts would be expected because of the proposed project.
Geology	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to geology would be expected because of the proposed project. No unique or substantial geologic formations would be removed or disturbed during project implementation. Therefore, no impacts to geology would be expected because of the proposed project.
Soil quality, stability, and moisture	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to soil quality and moisture would be expected because of the proposed project. Short-term, minor, and adverse impacts may result from a change in runoff during the construction period. Long-term, minor, and beneficial impacts would be anticipated as improvements in drainage would reduce erosion and allow for more groundwater capture with decreased slopes in the road.
Vegetation cover, quantity, and quality	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to vegetation cover, quantity, and quality would be expected because of the proposed project. Some trees, bushes and sod may be disturbed or removed to accommodate development of the switchbacks added to the existing East Bench and West Bench roads. Short-term, FWP expects that disturbed vegetation outside of the affected road surfaces would recover after completion of the project. Long-term, some minor adverse impacts would be expected including the potential loss of trees which would be removed to accommodate development of the East Bench and West Bench Road switchbacks. Additionally, in the long-term,

									FWP expects affected vegetation would grow back in the currently eroded areas after the switchbacks (with proper drainage) have been developed. The proposed project area is dominated by big sagebrush steppe and Rocky Mountain lower montane foothill and valley grassland habitats. "V" gate installation areas at the northern end of the WMA are associated with forest and woodland systems including Rocky Mountain Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine woodlands and savannas. Once the proposed project is complete no additional impacts would be expected because of the proposed project.
Aesthetics	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to the aesthetic nature of the affected area would be expected because of the proposed project. Disturbance from excavation would be noticeable and visitors to the WMA during construction activities may realize minor, adverse aesthetic impacts from noise and dust created by developing the switchback roads. FWP expects long-term, minor, and beneficial aesthetic impacts associated with the proposed project as revegetation of abandoned roadways occurs.
Air quality	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	No significant impacts to air quality in the affected area would be expected because of the proposed project. Air quality in the area affected by the proposed project is currently unclassifiable or attaining the applicable national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). The proposed project constitutes rerouting access roads, creating switchbacks on the steep inclines associated with the East Bench and West Bench roads to limit slope and erosion, installing horse gates at the trailheads located at the northern end of the WMA and entering non-motorized USFS lands, and improving the south entrance to the WMA. When completed, the proposed project would not result in any additional air quality disturbance in the affected area. Further, no significant point-sources of air pollution exist in the area affected by the proposed project. Existing sources of air pollution in the area are limited and generally include area sources such as

									unpaved county roads (fugitive dust source), vehicle exhaust emissions, and various agricultural practices (vehicle exhaust emissions and fugitive dust). Fugitive dust and vehicle exhaust emissions resulting from the movement of heavy equipment and construction material for the proposed project may have short-term, minor, adverse impacts to air quality in the immediate area for the duration of construction activities. No air quality restrictions exist in the affected area; therefore, the proposed project would not be expected to cause or contribute to a violation of the applicable NAAQS.
Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to any unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources would be expected because of the proposed project. FWP reviewed the Montana Natural Heritage Program's Environmental Summary report (MTNHP report) and the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation program (USFWS report) for the affected area and determined grizzly bear and wolverines are "present," or use the WMA habitat. The MTNHP report lists lynx as "potentially present" and the USFWS report lists lynx as "present" in the WMA. The USFWS report also lists monarch butterfly as "present," with that species not listed by the MTNHP report. The limited new footprint (East Bench and West Bench Road switchbacks) and limited duration of the proposed project make it unlikely that any disturbances caused by the proposed project would alter the presence of the four species listed by the USFWS report. The proposed project is in an area that is known or expected to support five animal "species of concern". The MTNHP report lists Prebles shrew (S3), long-billed curlew (S3 breeding), and mountain plover (S2 breeding) as "present" species on the WMA. Under the proposed action, FWP would avoid the two bird species if active nests are found. Curlews nest from late March to mid-April with adults initiating migration as early as late June. Therefore, it is likely curlews would be done nesting by the time the

									proposed project would be implemented. The proposed project may be implemented in the summer and fall of 2023; therefore, nesting mountain plovers could be encountered, as they typically nest into July. If mountain plover nest sites are discovered during project implementation, FWP would take all precautions necessary to avoid disturb the nesting birds. Further, most ground disturbing aspects of the proposed project would occur on existing roads. Adverse impacts to Prebles shrew may also occur because of the proposed project, as they prefer open spaces such as certain areas found within the WMA. However, again, by maximizing the use of established road areas and minimizing disturbance associated with developing switchbacks on the incline section of the East Bench and West Bench roads as well as installation of horse gates at the northern boundary of the WMA, any potential adverse impacts to Preble's shrew may be largely avoided. Any impacts to these resources would be short-term, minor, and consistent with existing impacts. Five animals (Appendix III) and nineteen plant species of concern (appendix IV) have been documented or are expected to locate within or near the WMA. Further, ninety-eight "potential" animal "species of concern" could also be present within or near the WMA (Appendix IV). No limited habitat types were identified in the MTNHP report. The road project area is dominated by big sagebrush steppe and Rocky Mountain lower montane foothill and valley grassland habitats. "V" gate installation areas are associated with forest and woodland systems including Rocky Mountain Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine woodlands and savannas. The short duration, timing to be summer of 2023 or early spring 2024, and limited scope of the project make it likely that any adverse impacts to unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources that may be in the affected area would be short-term and minor.

Historical and archaeological sites	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to historic and archaeological sites would be expected because of the proposed project. In keeping with the Montana Antiquities Act and related regulations (12.8.501-12.8.510), all undertakings on state lands are assessed by a qualified archaeologist or historian for their potential to affect cultural resources. The process for this assessment may include a cultural resource inventory and evaluation of cultural resources within or near the project area, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). FWP also consults with all affected Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPO) affiliated with each property in accordance with FWP's Tribal Consultation Guidelines. If cultural resources within or near the project area are recorded that are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, they would be protected from adverse effects through adjustments to the project design or cancellation of the project if no design alternatives are available. If cultural resources are unexpectedly discovered during project implementation, FWP would cease implementation, and contact FWP's Heritage Program for further evaluation.
Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air, and energy	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to demands on the environmental resources of land, water, air, and energy would be expected because of the proposed project. Fuel would be required to operate heavy equipment and vehicles used during the proposed project. However, any impacts would be limited by the anticipated short timeline for the construction phase of the proposed project and, as such, the amount of fuel used would be relatively minimal. Therefore, any impacts to the demands for energy would be short-term and negligible. As identified previously through the analyses of potential impacts to water quality, quantity, and distribution; soil quality, stability, and moisture; vegetation cover, quantity, and quality; and air quality; some impacts to the environmental resources of land water, and air may occur

									because of the proposed project. However, any such impacts would be short-term and minor (see cited impacts analyses above). No other demands on the affected environmental resources would be expected. Therefore, any adverse impacts to demands on the environmental resources of land, water, air and energy in the affected area would be short term and negligible to minor.

Table 4: Impacts to the Human Population

HUMAN POPULATION	**Duration of Impact**			**Severity of Impact**					
Resource	**None**	**Short-Term**	**Long-Term**	**None**	**Negligible**	**Minor**	**Moderate**	**Major**	**Summary of Potential Direct, Secondary, and Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures**
Social structures and mores		☐			☐		☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to pre-project social structures and mores in the affected area would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities associated with existing roads within the WMA and, when completed, would benefit public safety associated with recreational use of the WMA. Many Montanans and visitors to the state alike enjoy access to public lands for the purposes of hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, hiking, biking, and other recreational activities. A primary objective of WMAs is to support such activities. As such, improved infrastructure would facilitate ongoing and safe use of the WMA for the purposes identified and thereby support existing social structure, customs, values, and conventions in the affected area. Any impacts would be long-term, consistent with existing impacts, beneficial, and minor.
Cultural uniqueness and diversity	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	No significant impacts to cultural uniqueness and diversity in the affected area would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities associated with existing roads and it is not expected this action would result in any relocation of people into or out of the affected area. Therefore, no impacts to the existing cultural uniqueness and diversity

									of the affected area would be expected because of the proposed project.
Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities	☐	☒	☒	☐		☒	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to access or the quality of recreational and wilderness activities would be expected because of the proposed project. No wilderness areas exist within the proposed project area; therefore, no impacts to wilderness area access or recreation would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities associated with existing roads within a WMA and, when completed, will result in improvements to the public travel routes and benefit public safety. Many Montanans and visitors to the state alike enjoy access to public lands, including WMAs, for the purposes of hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, hiking, biking, and other recreational activities. A primary objective of WMAs is to support such activities. In the short-term, access to the existing WMA roads may be limited due to construction activities associated with the proposed project. Construction would occur in the summer and fall of 2023 or, alternatively, during the spring and summer of 2024. Primary use of the WMA occurs during hunting season. Work would be minimized or delayed during the peak of hunting season. Otherwise, the proposed project will be implemented during a low public use period and should not last more than 60 days. In the long-term, FWP expects that access will be improved by providing an improved route to public recreation areas. No closures of public lands would occur because of the proposed project. Noise, odors, and fugitive dust resulting from construction activities could impact the quality of the recreational experience for some individuals. Once the construction phase is completed no additional impacts would occur. Therefore, any impacts would be long-term, beneficial, and minor and short-term, adverse, and negligible.

Local and state tax base and tax revenues	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to the local and state tax base and tax revenue would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities associated with existing roads and, when completed, will result in improvements to the public travel routes and benefit public safety. The proposed project is expected to have short-term, minor beneficial impacts to state and local tax revenues from the sale of fuel, supplies and equipment needed to complete the project. Once the proposed project is complete no additional impacts will occur.
Agricultural or Industrial production		☐			☐	☐		☐	No significant adverse impacts to agricultural or industrial production would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities associated with existing roads within a WMA and, when completed, will result in improvements to the public travel routes and benefit public safety. The road improvements are all within the WMA property and no industrial production occurs within the WMA. Further, there are no current agricultural leases on the WMA. If future agricultural leases are implemented on the WMA, the road improvements would provide improved access for such activity. Therefore, any impacts would be long-term, moderate, and beneficial.
Human health and safety	☐		☒	☐		☐	☐	☒	No significant adverse impacts to human health and safety would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities associated with existing roads within a WMA and, when completed, will result in long-term and major beneficial improvements to the public travel routes and public safety. Affected government staff and/or contractors hired to conduct the project may realize increased risk to human health and safety during the construction phase; however, FWP would require affected staff and/or contractors to operate in a safe manner and utilize best management practices, including the use of available and appropriate safety precautions. Therefore, any potential

									impacts to human health and safety would be long-term, beneficial, and major and short-term, adverse, and negligible.
Quantity and distribution of employment	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to the quantity and distribution of employment in the affected area would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities within a WMA associated with existing roads and, when completed, would result in improvements to the public travel routes and benefit public safety. Because affected government staff and/or contractors would be hired to conduct the project, short -term and negligible impacts may be realized because existing government staff or contracted services would be required to locate in the affected area to complete construction activities.
Distribution and density of population and housing	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to the distribution and density of population and housing in the affected area would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities within a WMA associated with existing roads and, when completed, would result in improvements to the public travel routes and benefit public safety. Contractors would be used to accomplish portions of the proposed project, which may result in the need for temporary housing if the contractors selected for the proposed project do not live in the affected area. Any impacts from contracted work would be short-term and negligible and, when completed, would not impact the distribution and density of population and housing in the affected area. Further, the proposed project takes place on land owned by FWP and historically used for recreational purposes. Therefore, any impacts to the distribution and density of population and housing in the affected area because of the proposed project would be short-term and negligible.
Demands for government services	☐	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to demands for government services would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes

									improvement activities in a WMA associated with existing roads and, when completed, would result in improvements to existing public travel routes and benefit public safety. The proposed project would use hired contractors to complete the work. Therefore, some impacts to demands for government services would occur as contractors would be paid by FWP for their services. Further, following project completion, FWP staff would regularly monitor the area for any resource damage, litter, etc. Facilities would be maintained to WMA standards. FWP expects that use of WMA will remain consistent from year to year and that traffic on public roads leading to the WMA will not increase significantly. Additionally, traffic from construction equipment used to complete the project is expected to be minimal and no more impactful than typical traffic on affected local public roads. Therefore, any impacts would be short- and long-term and minor.
Industrial, agricultural, and commercial activity	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to industrial, agricultural, and commercial activity would be expected because of the proposed project. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities in a WMA associated with existing roads and, when completed, will result in improvements to the public travel routes and benefit public safety. The road improvements are all within the existing WMA property. The affected roads do not provide access to industrial, agricultural or commercial activity sites therefore no impacts would be expected because of thbe proposed project.
Locally adopted environmental plans and goals		☐			☐	☐		☐	No significant adverse impacts to locally adopted environmental plans and goals would be expected because of the proposed project. Primary objectives of the WMA designation include conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat and to provide the affected public with access to recreational opportunities. The proposed project constitutes improvement activities in a WMA associated with existing roads and, when completed,

									would result in improvements to the existing public travel routes and benefit public safety. Montana FWP is unaware of any other local adopted environmental plans and goals in the proposed project area. Therefore, any impacts would be long-term, moderate, and beneficial.
Other appropriate social and economic circumstances	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	No significant adverse impacts to any other appropriate social and economic circumstances would be expected because of the proposed project. Montana FWP is unaware of any other appropriate social and economic circumstances that may be impacted by the proposed project.

Table 5: Determining the Significance of Impacts on the Quality of the Human Environment

If the EA identifies impacts associated with the proposed project FWP must determine the significance of the impacts. ARM 12.2.431. This determination forms the basis for FWP's decision as to whether it is necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement. According to the applicable requirements of ARM 12.2.431, FWP must consider the criteria identified in this table to determine the significance of each impact on the quality of the human environment. The significance determination is made by giving weight to these criteria in their totality. For example, impacts identified as moderate or major in severity may not be significant if the duration is short-term. However, moderate or major impacts of short-term duration may be significant if the quantity and quality of the resource is limited and/or the resource is unique or fragile. Further, moderate or major impacts to a resource may not be significant if the quantity of that resource is high or the quality of the resource is not unique or fragile.	
Criteria Used to Determine Significance	
1	The **severity, duration, geographic extent,** and **frequency** of the occurrence of the impact **"Severity"** describes the density of the potential impact, while **"extent"** describes the area where the impact will likely occur, e.g., a project may propagate ten noxious weeds on a surface area of 1 square foot. Here, the impact may be high in severity, but over a low extent. In contrast, if ten noxious weeds were distributed over ten acres, there may be low severity over a larger extent. **"Duration"** describes the time period during which an impact may occur, while **"frequency"** describes how often the impact may occur, e.g., an operation that uses lights to mine at night may have frequent lighting impacts during one season (duration).
2	The probability that the impact will occur if the proposed project occurs; or conversely, reasonable assurance in keeping with the potential severity of an impact that the impact will not occur
3	Growth-inducing or growth-inhibiting aspects of the impact, including the relationship or contribution of the impact to cumulative impacts

4	The quantity and quality of each environmental resource or value that would be affected, including the uniqueness and fragility of those resources and values
5	The importance to the state and to society of each environmental resource or value that would be affected
6	Any precedent that would be set as a result of an impact of the proposed project that would commit FWP to future actions with significant impacts or a decision in principle about such future actions
7	Potential conflict with local, state, or federal laws, requirements, or formal plans

VIII. Private Property Impact Analysis (Takings)

The 54th Montana Legislature enacted the Private Property Assessment Act, now found at § 2-10-101. The intent was to establish an orderly and consistent process by which state agencies evaluate their proposed projects under the "Takings Clauses" of the United States and Montana Constitutions. The Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution provides: "nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." Similarly, Article II, Section 29 of the Montana Constitution provides: "Private property shall not be taken or damaged for public use without just compensation..."

The Private Property Assessment Act applies to proposed agency projects pertaining to land or water management or to some other environmental matter that, if adopted and enforced without due process of law and just compensation, would constitute a deprivation of private property in violation of the United States or Montana Constitutions.

The Montana State Attorney General's Office has developed guidelines for use by state agencies to assess the impact of a proposed agency project on private property. The assessment process includes a careful review of all issues identified in the Attorney General's guidance document (Montana Department of Justice 1997). If the use of the guidelines and checklist indicates that a proposed agency project has taking or damaging implications, the agency must prepare an impact assessment in accordance with Section 5 of the Private Property Assessment Act.

Table 6: Private Property Assessment (Takings)

	Yes	No
Is FWP regulating the use of private property under a regulatory statute adopted pursuant to the police power of the state? (Property management, grants of financial assistance, and the exercise of the power of eminent domain are not within this category.) If not, no further analysis is required	☐	☒
Does the proposed regulatory action restrict the use of the regulated person's private property? If not, no further analysis is required.	☐	☒
Does FWP have legal discretion to impose or not impose the proposed restriction or discretion as to how the restriction will be imposed? If not, no further analysis is required	☐	☒
If so, FWP must determine if there are alternatives that would reduce, minimize, or eliminate the restriction on the use of private property, and analyze such alternatives. Have alternatives been considered and/or analyzed? If so, describe below:	☐	☒

PRIVATE PROPERTY ASSESMENT ACT (PPAA)			
Does the Proposed Action Have Takings Implications under the PPAA?	**Question #**	**Yes**	**No**
Does the project pertain to land or water management or environmental regulations affecting private property or water rights?	1	☐	☒
Does the action result in either a permanent or an indefinite physical occupation of private property?	2	☐	☒
Does the action deprive the owner of all economically viable uses of the property?	3	☐	☒
Does the action require a property owner to dedicate a portion of property or to grant an easement? (If answer is NO, skip questions 4a and 4b and continue with question 6.)	4	☐	☒
Is there a reasonable, specific connection between the government requirement and legitimate state interest?	4a	☐	☐
Is the government requirement roughly proportional to the impact of the proposed use of the property?	4b	☐	☐

Does the action deny a fundamental attribute of ownership?	5	☐	☒
Does the action have a severe impact of the value of the property?	6	☐	☒
Does the action damage the property by causing some physical disturbance with respect to the property in excess of that sustained by the public general? (If the answer is NO, skip questions 7a-7c.)	7	☐	☒
Is the impact of government action direct, peculiar, and significant?	7a	☐	☐
Has the government action resulted in the property becoming practically inaccessible, waterlogged, or flooded?	7b	☐	☐
Has the government action diminished property values by more than 30% and necessitated the physical taking of adjacent property or property across a public way from the property in question?	7c	☐	☐
Does the proposed action result in taking or damaging implications?		☐	☒
Taking or damaging implications exist if **YES** is checked in response to Question 1 and also to any one or more of the following questions: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7a, 7b, 7c; or if **NO** is checked in response to question 4a or 4b.			
If taking or damaging implications exist, the agency must comply with MCA § 2-10-105 of the PPAA, to include the preparation of a taking or damaging impact assessment. Normally, the preparation of an impact assessment will require consultation with agency legal staff.			
Alternatives: The analysis under the Private Property Assessment Act, §§ 2-10-101 through -112, MCA, indicates no impact. FWP does not plan to impose conditions that would restrict the regulated person's use of private property to constitute a taking.			

IX. Public Participation

The level of analysis in an EA will vary with the complexity and seriousness of environmental issues associated with a proposed action. The level of public interest will also vary. FWP is responsible for adjusting public review to match these factors (ARM 12.2.433(1)). Because FWP determines the proposed action will result in limited environmental impact, and little public interest has been expressed, FWP determines the following public notice strategy will provide an appropriate level of public review:

- An EA is a public document and may be inspected upon request. Any person may obtain a copy of an EA by making a request to FWP. If the document is out-of-print, a copying charge may be levied (ARM 12.2.433(2)).
- Public notice will be served on the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks website at: *https://fwp.mt.gov/aboutfwp/public-comment-opportunities*
- Copies will be distributed to neighboring landowners to ensure their knowledge of the proposed project and opportunity for review and comment on the proposed action.
- FWP maintains a mailing list of persons interested in a particular action or type of action. FWP will notify all interested persons and distribute copies of the EA to those persons for review and comment (ARM 12.2.433(3)).
- FWP will issue public notice in the following newspaper periodical(s) on the date(s) indicated.

Newspaper / Periodical	Date(s) Public Notice Issued
Harlowton Times Clarion	July 26, 2023
Billings Gazette	July 26, 2023

- Public notice will announce the availability of the EA, summarize its content, and solicit public comment.
    - **Duration of Public Comment Period:** The public comment period begins on the date of publication of legal notice in area newspapers (see above). Written or e-mailed comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., MDT, on the last day of public comment, as listed below:

Length of Public Comment Period: 15 days
Public Comment Period Begins: July 24, 2023
Public Comment Period Ends: August 7, 2023

Comments must be addressed to the FWP contact, as listed below.

- **Where to Mail or Email Comments on the Draft EA:**
  Name: MONTANA FISH WILDLIFE AND PARKS REGION 5
  Email: fwpregion5pc@mt.gov use subject line: **Haymaker WMA Road Improvements**

  Mailing Address:
  C/O Matt Ladd: Haymaker WMA Road Improvements
  2300 Lake Elmo Drive
  Billings, MT 59105

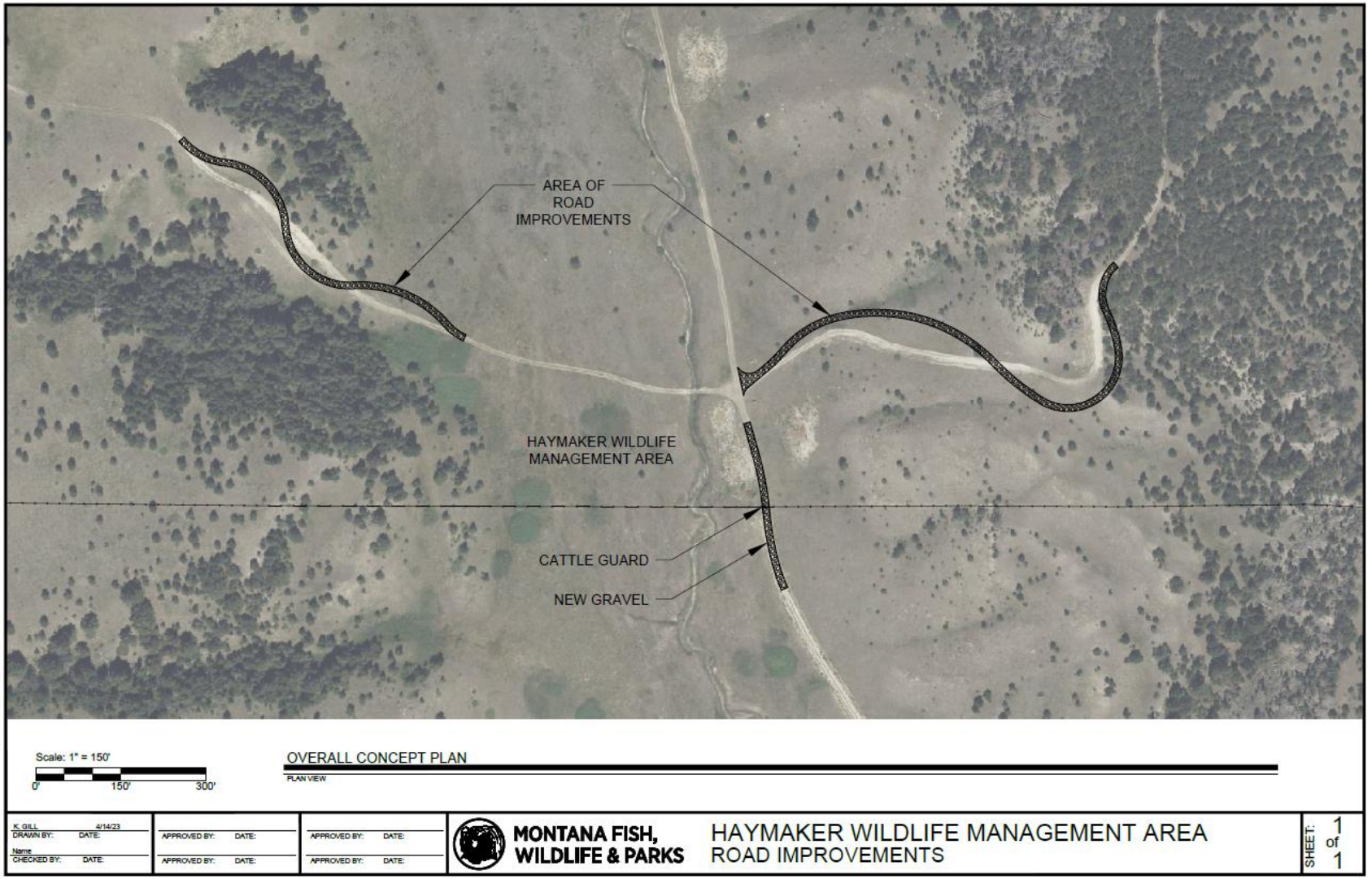
X. Recommendation for Further Environmental Analysis

NO further analysis is needed for the proposed action	☒
FWP must conduct **EIS** level review for the proposed action	☐

XI. EA Preparation and Review

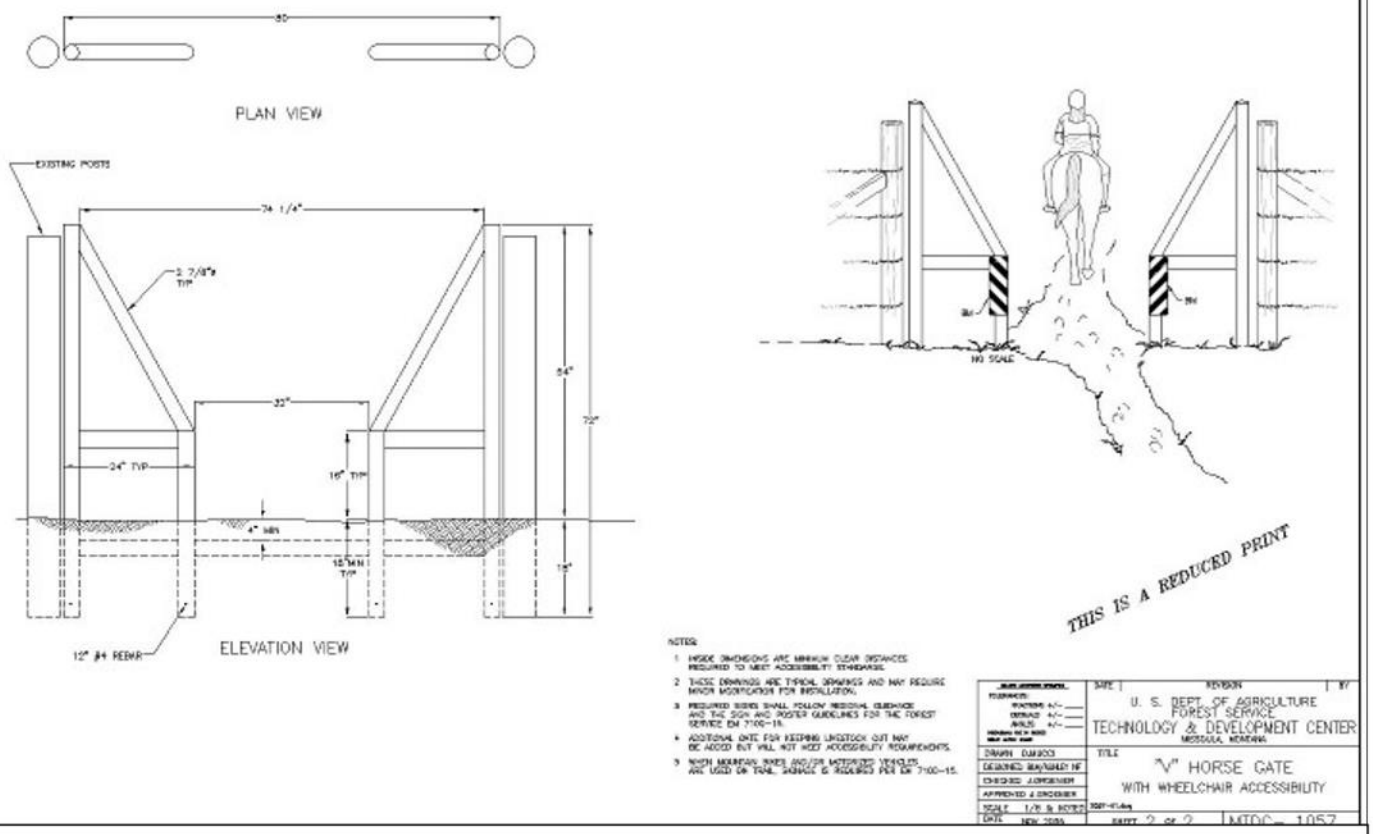
	Name	**Title**
EA prepared by:	Matt Ladd	Wildlife Manager (Region 5)
EA reviewed by:	Brenna Moloney	Parks Outdoor Recreation, Archeologist
EA reviewed by:	Mike Ruggles	Region 5 Supervisor
EA reviewed by:	Hope Stockwell	Parks and Outdoor Recreation Administrator
EA reviewed by:	Eric Merchant	MEPA Coordinator

Appendix I. Conceptual location and plans for road improvements.



Appendix II. Conceptual plans for “V” gates.

Haymaker WMA MONTANAFWP



US Department of Agriculture Forest Service Drawings “V” Horse Gate
https://www.fs.usda.gov/td/pubs/htmlpubs/htm06232340/drawings/index.htm#

Appendix III. Species of concern present in or near the WMA.

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Distribution	MT State Rank
Mammals	Preble's Shrew	Sorex preblei	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	Grizzly Bear	Ursus arctos	Resident Year Round	S2S3
Mammals	Wolverine	Gulo gulo	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Long-billed Curlew	Numenius americanus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Mountain Plover	Charadrius montanus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S2B

Appendix IV. Animal and plant species of concern potentially present on the WMA.

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Distribution	MT State Rank
Amphibians	Western Toad	Anaxyrus boreas	Resident Year Round	S2
Amphibians	Northern Leopard Frog	Lithobates pipiens	Resident Year Round	S1,S4
Birds	Clark's Nutcracker	Nucifraga columbiana	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Cassin's Finch	Haemorhous cassinii	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Evening Grosbeak	Coccothraustes vespertinus	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Northern Goshawk	Accipiter gentilis	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Great Gray Owl	Strix nebulosa	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Green-tailed Towhee	Pipilo chlorurus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Common Poorwill	Phalaenoptilus nuttallii	Migratory Summer Breeder	S4B
Birds	Brewer's Sparrow	Spizella breweri	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Veery	Catharus fuscescens	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Plumbeous Vireo	Vireo plumbeus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3S4B
Birds	Barrow's Goldeneye	Bucephala islandica	Resident Year Round	S4
Birds	Lewis's Woodpecker	Melanerpes lewis	Migratory Summer Breeder	S2B
Birds	Red-headed Woodpecker	Melanerpes erythrocephalus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Sage Thrasher	Oreoscoptes montanus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Sprague's Pipit	Anthus spragueii	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Greater Sage-Grouse	Centrocercus urophasianus	Resident Year Round	S2
Birds	Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	Resident Year Round	S3

Birds	Short-eared Owl	Asio flammeus	Resident Year Round	S4
Birds	Loggerhead Shrike	Lanius ludovicianus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Rufous Hummingbird	Selasphorus rufus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S4B
Birds	Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Eastern Bluebird	Sialia sialis	Migratory Summer Breeder	S4B
Birds	Bobolink	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Boreal Owl	Aegolius funereus	Resident Year Round	S3S4
Birds	Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Resident Year Round	S4
Birds	Baird's Sparrow	Centronyx bairdii	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Chestnut-collared Longspur	Calcarius ornatus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S2B
Birds	Black-backed Woodpecker	Picoides arcticus	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Northern Hawk Owl	Surnia ulula	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Black-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus erythropthalmus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Tennessee Warbler	Leiothlypis peregrina	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3S4B
Birds	Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	American Bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Harlequin Duck	Histrionicus histrionicus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S2B
Birds	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus	Migratory Rare Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Hooded Merganser	Lophodytes cucullatus	Resident Year Round	S4
Birds	Trumpeter Swan	Cygnus buccinator	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Varied Thrush	Ixoreus naevius	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Pacific Wren	Troglodytes pacificus	Resident Year Round	S3
Birds	Black Tern	Chlidonias niger	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Black-necked Stilt	Himantopus mexicanus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	Leucosticte tephrocotis	Resident Year Round	S2
Birds	American White Pelican	Pelecanus erythrorhynchos	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Black Rosy-Finch	Leucosticte atrata	Resident Year Round	S2
Birds	Black-crowned Night-Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Forster's Tern	Sterna forsteri	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Franklin's Gull	Leucophaeus pipixcan	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B

Birds	White-faced Ibis	Plegadis chihi	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Clark's Grebe	Aechmophorus clarkii	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Common Loon	Gavia immer	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Birds	Horned Grebe	Podiceps auritus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Invertebrates	Suckley Cuckoo Bumble Bee	Bombus suckleyi	Resident Year Round	S1
Invertebrates	Berry's Mountainsnail	Oreohelix strigosa berryi	Resident Year Round	S1S2
Invertebrates	A Caddisfly	Rhyacophila betteni	Resident Year Round	S3S4
Invertebrates	Gray Comma	Polygonia progne	Resident Year Round	S2
Invertebrates	Gillette's Checkerspot	Euphydryas gillettii	Resident Year Round	S2
Invertebrates	Emma's Dancer	Argia emma	Resident Year Round	S3S5
Invertebrates	Ocellated Emerald	Somatochlora minor	Resident Year Round	S2S4
Invertebrates	Vivid Dancer	Argia vivida	Resident Year Round	S3S5
Invertebrates	Lance-tipped Darner	Aeshna constricta	Resident Year Round	S1S3
Invertebrates	Lake Darner	Aeshna eremita	Resident Year Round	S3S4
Invertebrates	Sedge Darner	Aeshna juncea	Resident Year Round	S3S5
Invertebrates	Familiar Bluet	Enallagma civile	Resident Year Round	S2S4
Invertebrates	Alkali Bluet	Enallagma clausum	Resident Year Round	S2S4
Invertebrates	Arroyo Bluet	Enallagma praevarum	Resident Year Round	S3S5
Invertebrates	Boreal Whiteface	Leucorrhinia borealis	Resident Year Round	S1
Invertebrates	California Darner	Rhionaeschna californica	Resident Year Round	S3S5
Invertebrates	Blue-eyed Darner	Rhionaeschna multicolor	Resident Year Round	S2S4
Invertebrates	Mountain Emerald	Somatochlora semicircularis	Resident Year Round	S3S5
Invertebrates	Red-veined Meadowhawk	Sympetrum madidum	Resident Year Round	S2S3
Mammals	Long-legged Myotis	Myotis volans	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	Western Spotted Skunk	Spilogale gracilis	Resident Year Round	SU
Mammals	Long-eared Myotis	Myotis evotis	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	Hoary Bat	Lasiurus cinereus	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Mammals	Merriam's Shrew	Sorex merriami	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	Little Brown Myotis	Myotis lucifugus	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	Silver-haired Bat	Lasionycteris noctivagans	Resident Year Round	S4
Mammals	Townsend's Big-eared Bat	Corynorhinus townsendii	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	North American Porcupine	Erethizon dorsatum	Resident Year Round	S3S4

Mammals	Spotted Bat	Euderma maculatum	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3
Mammals	Fringed Myotis	Myotis thysanodes	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	Hayden's Shrew	Sorex haydeni	Resident Year Round	S3S4
Mammals	Canada Lynx	Lynx canadensis	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	Eastern Red Bat	Lasiurus borealis	Migratory Summer Breeder	S3B
Mammals	Bison	Bos bison	Resident Year Round	S2
Mammals	Swift Fox	Vulpes velox	Resident Year Round	S3
Mammals	Black-footed Ferret	Mustela nigripes	Extirpated Reintroduction Being Attempted	S1
Reptiles	Greater Short-horned Lizard	Phrynosoma hernandesi	Resident Year Round	S3
Reptiles	Western Milksnake	Lampropeltis gentilis	Resident Year Round	S2
Vascular Plants	Austin's Knotweed	Polygonum austiniae	Present-Gravelly open slope habitat*	S3S4
Vascular Plants	Long-styled Thistle	Cirsium longistylum	Present-open alpine meadows*	S2S3
Vascular Plants	Wood Lily	Lilium philadelphicum	Present-Moist meadows and valleys	S3
Vascular Plants	Crawe's Sedge	Carex crawei	Present-wet soils along streams and ponds	S2S3
Vascular Plants	Northern Buttercup	Ranunculus pedatifidus	Present-moist meadows and open woodlands	S3
Vascular Plants	Kalm's Lobelia	Lobelia kalmii	Present-organic wet meadows fens and valleys	S3
Vascular Plants	Platte Cinquefoil	Potentilla plattensis	Present-Mesic grasslands and sagebrush steppe*	S3
Vascular Plants	Floriferous Monkeyflower	Mimulus floribundus	Unknown-Moist cliffs and streambanks	SH
Vascular Plants	Northern Rattlesnake-plantain	Goodyera repens	Present-north facing mossy forest slopes	S3
Vascular Plants	Bractless Hedge-hyssop	Gratiola ebracteata	Present-Drying mud around ponds	S2
Vascular Plants	Small Yellow Lady's-slipper	Cypripedium parviflorum	Present-fens damp mossy woods	S3S4
Vascular Plants	Least Moonwort	Botrychium simplex	Present-Mesic soils by roadsides disturbed habitats*	S2
Vascular Plants	Heart-leaved Buttercup	Ranunculus cardiophyllus	Present-moist meadows and wetlands on foothills	S3
Vascular Plants	Scribner's Ragwort	Senecio integerrimus var. scribneri	Present-wetland subalpine forests	S2S3
Vascular Plants	Upward-lobed Moonwort	Botrychium ascendens	Present- Mesic soils by roadsides disturbed habitats*	S3
Vascular Plants	Wavy Moonwort	Botrychium crenulatum	Present- Mesic soils by roadsides disturbed habitats*	S3
Vascular Plants	Desert Groundsel	Senecio eremophilus	Present-Moist streambanks and riparian forest	S1S2
Vascular Plants	Short-styled Columbine	Aquilegia brevistyla	Present-open woods and streambanks	S2S3
Vascular Plants	Low Braya	Braya humilis	Present-sparse vegetation spring moisture*	S2